

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

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R 050455Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7386

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR BY POUCH

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TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TZ

SUBJECT: TANU CENTRAL COMMITTEE ACTS TO STRENGTHEN PARTY
AND SOCIALIST SYSTEM

REF: DAR ES SALAAM A-212, 12/16/74

1. SUMMARY: TANU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING AT END OF
JANUARY ORDERED AMENDMENT OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION TO
ENSHRINE PARTY SUPREMACY AND TANZANIAN COMMITMENT TO
SOCIALISM, AND TIGHTENED CONTROL OF PARTY ELECTIONS, WHILE
PRESIDENT HAS REITERATED EARLIER DECISION TO EXTEND PRO-
HIBITIONS AGAINST CAPITALIST ACTIVITY TO ALL PARTY MEMBERS.
END SUMMARY.

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2. CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF TANU, TANZANIA'S ONLY POLITICAL
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PARTY, MET IN DODOMA JANUARY 28-30 UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF

PRESIDENT NYERERE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION VOTED BY TANU'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LAST NOVEMBER (REFAIR), CENTRAL COMMITTEE INSTRUCTED THE GOVERNMENT TO PREPARE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PARTY'S SUPREMACY OVER THE GOVERNMENT AS TOP POLICY-MAKING ORGAN OF THE NATION. AT SAME TIME, IT INSTURCTED GOVERNMENT TO AMEND CONSTITUTION TO FORMALIZE TANZANI'S STATUS AS A SOCIALIST STATE. FURTHER STRENGTHENING ITS OWN POWERS, CENTRAL COMMITTEE ASSERTED ITS POWER TO CALL CABINET MINISTERS TO APPEAR BEFORE ITS SUBCOMMITTEES AND GIVE ACCOUNTING OF THEIR MINISTRIES' IPERATIONS, ANNOUNCED THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL HENCEFORTH TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF BRANCH AND REGIONAL TANU LEADERS, AND ORDERED INVESTIGATIONS OF SEVERAL UPCOMING DISTRICT ELECTIONS. FINALLY, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THE SUB-DIVISION OF FOUR DISTRICTS.

3. ON FEBRUARY 1, PRESIDENT NYERERE SUMMONED PARTY LEADERS TO HEAR AN HOUR LONG SPEECH, ALSO BROADCAST LIVE TO NATION. FOLLOWING AN OPTIMISTIC REPORT ON TANZANIA'S FOOD SITUATION, PRESIDENT REVIEWED AND REITERATED IN DETAIL THE DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LAST NOVEMBER (REFAIR) TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONS OF LEADERSHIP CODE (PROHIBITING PARTICIPATION IN CAPITALIST ACTIVITY) TO ALL MEMBERS OF TANU, RATHER THAN JUST TANU LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. BUT HE INDICATED THAT CERTAIN MINOR EXCEPTIONS WOULD BE PERMITTED, POINTING OUT THAT IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS TO ADMIT TO MEMBERSHIP A WELL-PAID BUREAUCRAT FROM A STATE-OWNED PARASTATAL COMPANY WHILE EXCLUDING, AS A CAPITALIST, A POOR MAN WHO SHARES HIS HUT WITH HIS FELLOW FOR A FEW SHILLINGS.

4. LOCAL MEDIA HAVE GREETED THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DECISIONS, AND THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, WITH THEIR CUSTOMARY ENTHUSIASM, THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS SUGGESTING THAT THE PARTY GO FURTHER AND SIMPLY DESIGNATE THOSE WHO ARE TO RUN FOR PARTY OFFICE, RATHER THAN ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO PUT THEIR OWN NAMES FORWARD FOR NOMINATION.

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5. COMMENT: THOUGH THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS DO NOT IN THEMSELVES CONSTITUTE MAJOR CHANGES IN TANZANIA'S POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM, THEY DO CONTINUE THE NATION'S GRADUAL EVOLUTION TOWARDS -- AND RENEW TANU'S COMMITMENT TO -- A SOCIALIST SYSTEM REGULATING EVER MORE CLOSELY THE DAILY LIFE AND ACTIVITIES OF ALL CITIZENS.
CARTER

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